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MEDIA RELEASE

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Get an Electric Mower for \$99 at the MDAQMD's Exchange Event on May 5 Online Pre-Registration Opens April 2

Victorville – More than 300 emission-free cordless electric mowers will be available starting at \$99 each during the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's Electric Lawn Mower Exchange Event, which will take place on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at the Victorville Fairgrounds, from 8:00AM until 12:00PM. The event will offer High Desert residents an opportunity to help "mow down air pollution" by trading in an old, operable gasoline-powered lawnmower for a new electric model at a significantly reduced cost.

Residents must pre-register to obtain a lawn mower during the event. Online registrations will be accepted at www.blackanddecker.com/events beginning at 6:00AM on April 2, 2012. Visually-impaired residents or those without Internet access may register by calling 1-877-290-3423.

Only pre-registered residents may bring their lawn mower – emptied of all gas and oil – to the Fairgrounds on May 5 and exchange it for one of two Black and Decker models: an 18" cutting width mower with a 36 volt battery for \$99 (regular price is \$349) or a 19" mower with a 36 volt battery for \$129 (regular price: \$399). One lawnmower per household will be exchanged.

According to MDAQMD Executive Director Eldon Heaston, "Lawn mowers and other gasoline-powered lawn care equipment are the nation's leading source of off-road emissions; one gas mower can pollute as much as 40 newer-model cars." Heaston adds that although gas-powered

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mowers being sold today are 90% cleaner than those sold ten years ago, "Only electric mowers produce zero-emissions."

In 2011, the MDAQMD exchanged 335 mowers during the one-day only exchange. This year's supply is also expected to go quickly, so residents are encouraged to pre-register early on April 2. For more information on the Electric Lawn Mower Exchange Event, call the District at (760) 245-1661 ext. 1885 or visit the District's website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov.